

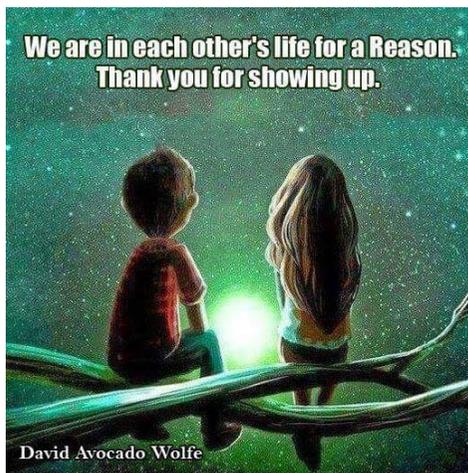
## Church News August 2015



### That good part

I would like to invite you to find your best chair, to sit quietly, calm down, turn off the radio, internet and phone, set your mind on hold, listen to your heart beat and slowly read this article.

One of my friends told me about a wakeup call she had some time ago. She was in her car. It was 3.18 pm. She was driving downtown but should have been at another place, and she tried to call the people that were waiting for her, while she was thinking about something important she had to do the following day. Her 3 kids were also in the car. They were upset because she had promised them an ice cream and now there was no time for it. They tried to argue, and she tried to sing a song to cheer them up when another car bumped into the side of their car. The mum stopped singing, and she stopped calling on the phone, and she stopped thinking about the important thing she had to do the next day. She pulled the car over to the side. The car only had some small scratches. Nothing else. They continued driving. And she could not deny it. It was all about being anywhere else than where she was, downtown in a car with her 3 kids. She was not



present. She tried to be in several places at once and then she ended up being nowhere. There are moments that require our full attention. Like you cannot ask anybody to go to the loo for you, and you cannot drive a car with 3 kids without being there in the present. There are circumstances in our life that cannot be delegated,

and we can't rely on others being there. There are moments in our life which no one else can replace. Some call them Key moments, which we can only regret if we miss.

In a world filled with distractions, big expectations, and big dreams, the controversial story of Mary and Martha from the Bible can help us set our life in order. Jesus and His disciples arrived at the home of Lazarus, Mary and Martha about mealtime. It was Martha who invited them in. "She [Martha] had a sister called Mary, who also sat at Jesus' feet and heard His words. But Martha was distracted with much serving, and she approached Him and said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Therefore tell her to help me.' And Jesus answered and said to her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken from her'" (Luke 10:39-42) Martha and Mary are known far and wide. Not because the two sisters did something special, or had a special function in the society, but we all know the types: The hard working Martha, who was always on time, and the not so diligent - not to say lazy - Mary, who let Martha do everything while she just sat down. About Mary Jesus said that she had chosen the good part. How can that be? To just sit down and listen to another requires no effort or particularly expensive modern technology, but on a human level it can give a very high yield. Can you give another human being something more precious than your time and presence? As for Martha it can be difficult to escape chores, because the bad conscience immediately takes over. Sitting as Mary, daring to let the world take its natural course and just be present in this now requires more courage than many may find in their hearts. But it is perhaps the most important investment in life. Always to be where we should be, requires that we take good care of our time, so it becomes good. And we have to be careful not to run out of patience and presence.

Pastor – Anja G. Mathiassen



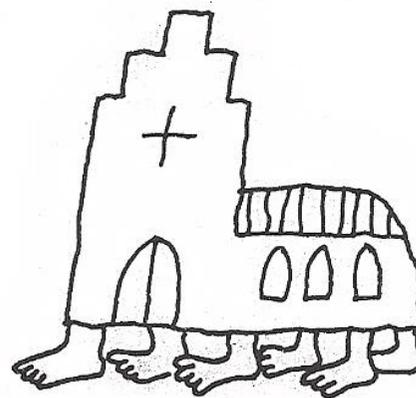
## New Common seal by Gitte Eklund

The church has got a new name - but the same crew and impact. But with a new name comes a new common seal for the church. Once again we have been lucky that Gitte Eklund, has donated the common seal for the church.

"Gitte was born in Denmark and has "been creatively aware" for as long as she can remember. She studied fashion design at the prestigious Danmarks Designskole Kolding, Denmark and went on to work as a fashion designer, and later as a head stylist in the interior design business. After a period in London, where she worked for Issey Miyake, Gitte moved to New Zealand with her Kiwi husband and young son. Here she has taken the time and opportunity to fully explore herself as an artist"

Gitte has made a red and white seal inspired by the colour of the Danish flag, and created a globe because we are a church abroad, and she used the New Zealand Koru, an integral symbol in Māori art which symbolizes new life, growth, strength and peace. On behalf of the church, I would like to again thank Gitte Eklund for the common seal. We love it.

You can visit <http://eklund.vc.net.nz> and see more of Gitte Eklunds work.



**Next Danish  
Church Service  
Auckland  
6<sup>th</sup> September!**

The next church service will take place in Auckland at the Danish House, 6 Rockridge Ave, Penrose, Auckland 1061 on, **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> of September 2015 at 4pm** – just after the Open House.

### We Welcome Your Support

Did you know that you can **support the Danish Church NZ** as a yearly contributor and become a member? Funds can be donated via online banking (Westpac NZ: 03 0502 0445253-000) or sent by cheque to Treasurer Majbrit Lyngby Christiansen. Alternatively you can go to [www.danishchurchnz.org](http://www.danishchurchnz.org) or contact Majbrit on [dkchurchsubs@gmail.com](mailto:dkchurchsubs@gmail.com) for more information.

